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**Remarks**

Please cancel claims 11, 12, 15 and 16.

Claim 17 has been added.

The pending claims are 1-8, 13-14 and 17.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the useful comments on the elected group. The current claims have been amended to correspond to the scope of the elected claims. In particular, Claim 1 has been amended to be directed to compounds having pyrrolidine or piperidine optionally substituted with C<sub>1-3</sub> alkyl groups at R<sub>1</sub>.

Claim 17 recites selected compounds from the specification in the Examples that fall under the scope of Claim 1.

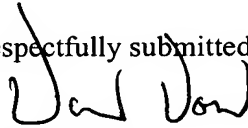
In the Office action the Examiner also presented a new rejection. The Examiner rejected claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C §112, first paragraph on the assertion that the specification while being enabling for carboxy group being convertible, does not reasonably provide enablement for negatively charged under physiological conditions. Claim 16 has been amended to restrict the class of compounds that are negatively charged under physiological conditions to the recited a markush group (page 5, line 22 of the present amendment). Support can be found in the specification at page 7, line 28 – page 9, line 4. For this reason applicant requests that this ground for rejection be withdrawn.

It is not believed that any fees are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional fees are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 02-2955.

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Applicants respectfully submit that all of the subject claims are in the condition for allowance. If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would be helpful in advancing prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney below.

Respectfully submitted,



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